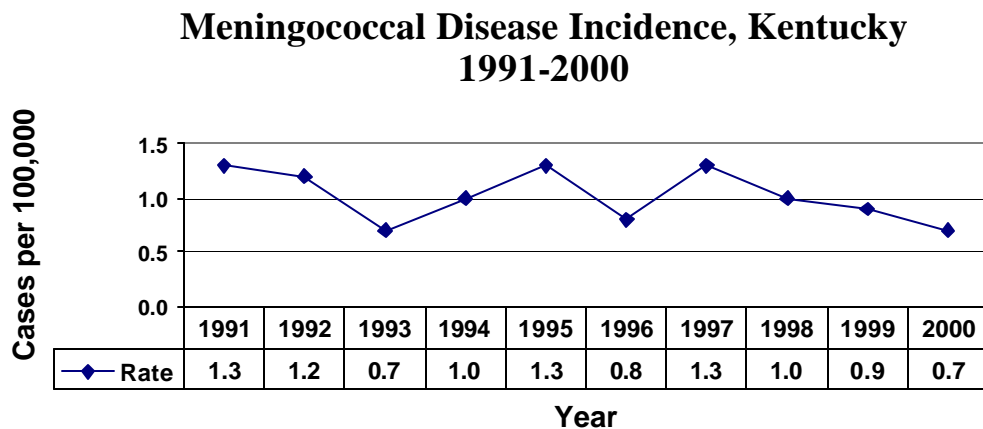


MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

Meningococcal disease, an acute bacterial disease caused by *Neisseria meningitidis*, is most commonly manifested as meningitis, but it is also reportable if confirmed in other normally sterile sites. The disease is characterized by a sudden onset of fever, intense headache, stiff neck, nausea and vomiting, and often a petechial rash. Delirium and coma often appear and fulminant cases may exhibit sudden prostration, ecchymoses and shock. With early diagnosis and therapy the case fatality rate is between 5% and 15%. Transmission of the organism is from person to person through infected droplets of discharges from the nose and throat, more often from infected carriers than from cases.

Laboratory Criteria for Confirmation:

- Isolation of *Neisseria meningitidis* from a normally sterile site (such as blood, CSF, or less commonly, joint, pleural, or pericardial fluid).



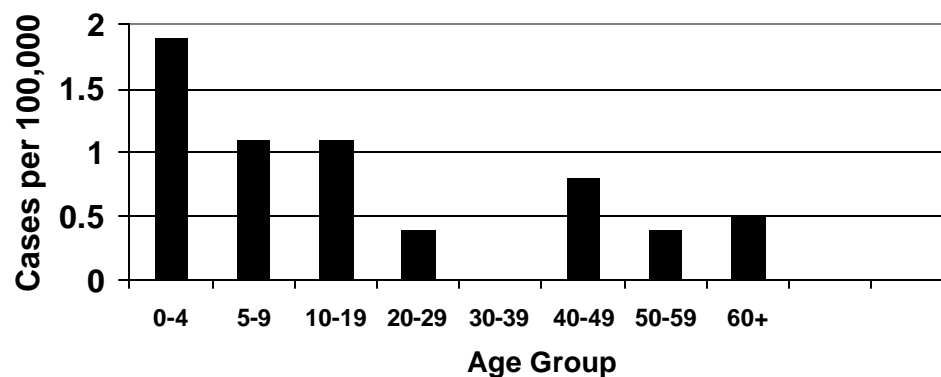
Incidence in Kentucky 2000

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Number of Cases | 26 |
| Rate per 100,000 | 0.7 |

Rate by Gender

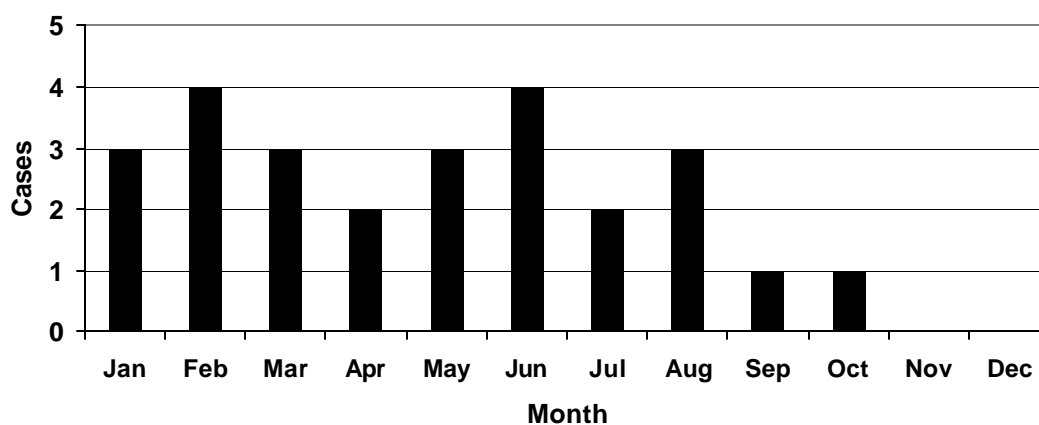
| | |
|--------|-----|
| Female | 0.6 |
| Male | 0.7 |

Meningococcal Disease, Age-Specific Incidence Kentucky, 2000

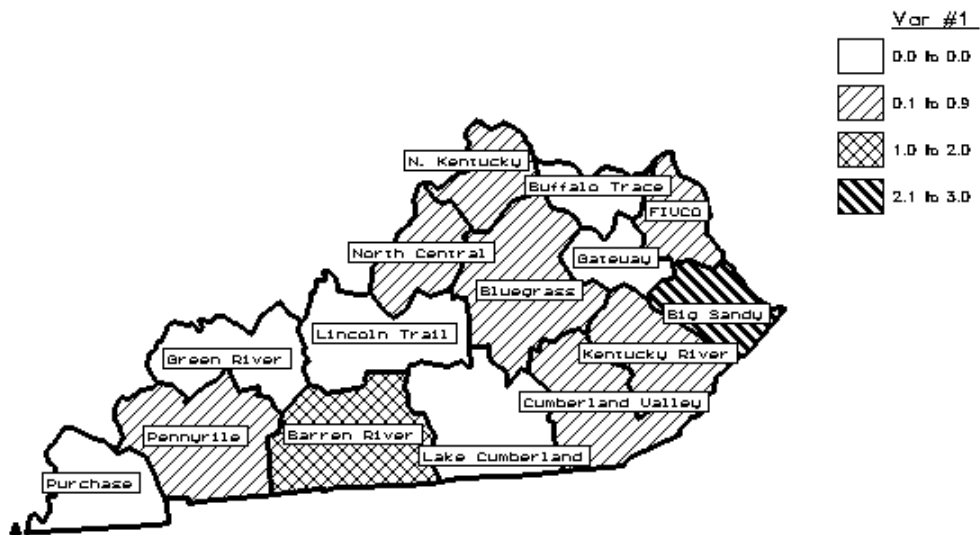


Reported incidence was highest in children 0-4yrs of age, 1.9 cases per 100,000. Three of these cases were 9 months or younger.

Meningococcal Disease by Month of Onset Kentucky, 2000



Meningococcal Disease by District, Kentucky Annual Incidence, 2000



District Meningococcal Disease Rates Per 100,000

| District | Rate |
|-------------------|------|
| Purchase | 0.0 |
| Pennyryle | 0.9 |
| Green River | 0.0 |
| Barren River | 1.2 |
| Lincoln Trail | 0.0 |
| North Central | 0.6 |
| Northern Kentucky | 0.8 |
| Buffalo Trace | 0.0 |
| Gateway | 0.0 |
| Fivco | 0.7 |
| Big Sandy | 3.0 |
| Kentucky River | 0.8 |
| Cumberland Valley | 0.4 |
| Lake Cumberland | 0.0 |
| Bluegrass | 0.8 |